



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

April 29, 2010

To: Supervisor Don Knabe, Chair
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

STATUS ON MARCH 23, 2010 BOARD MOTION – INVESTIGATING CHILD ABUSE IN COUNTY-CONTRACTED FOSTER CARE FACILITIES

On March 23, 2010, on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, your Board directed the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), in conjunction with the Auditor-Controller (Auditor), the Director of Children and Family Services (DCFS), and the Chief Probation Officer to report back in 30 days and quarterly thereafter on: 1) the development of a plan, within existing resources, for a strength-based, efficient, and effective process to both eliminate redundancy within the function of auditing/monitoring State-licensed, County-contracted foster care facilities; and 2) to add child welfare investigative expertise back into the process of analyzing a facility's appropriateness, as a whole, when a foster care provider is alleged to have endangered a County-supervised child.

On April 12, 2010, a meeting was convened between the CEO, Auditor, and DCFS to discuss the motion and to begin gathering information necessary to carry out your Board's directive. Specifically, DCFS was asked to prepare a matrix of the Department's prior and current Out-of-Home Care operations, as well as its current efforts in auditing/monitoring State-licensed, County-contracted foster care facilities, to determine the level of redundancy within this function. Additionally, DCFS has rehired a 120-day retiree to provide critical expertise and experience to the workgroup. This individual previously oversaw the DCFS' Out-of-Home Care Evaluation Unit and will be a key member of the workgroup. Our next meeting is scheduled for May 3, 2010, during which we will evaluate the history of the County's review of foster agencies, allocated resources, requirements, and current auditing/monitoring efforts.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

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While progress has been made in terms of determining the problems with the current system, we need additional time to develop an appropriate process for your consideration. As a result, we request a 45-day extension on this effort.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me or your staff may contact Kathy House, Acting Deputy Chief Executive Officer at (213) 974-4530 or via email at khouse@ceo.lacounty.gov.

WTF:BC:KH
DS:BM:cvb

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
Auditor-Controller
Children and Family Services
Probation

Status Report – Investigating Child Abuse_323motion 04-26.doc